

What is claimed:

1. A method for managing content, wherein at least a portion of the content is stored by an alignment system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request, from at least one user, at the alignment system, to align the content to

5 at least one of a plurality of standards using the alignment system; and

performing the alignment using the alignment system.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the alignment system is a web-based alignment system.

10 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the alignment system is a software-based alignment system.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the content comprises at least one of instructional data, planning data, implementation data, assessment data, school district instructional data, school district planning data, and school district assessment data.

15 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of performing the alignment of the content is a semi-automated process performed by the alignment system.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of standards comprises local school standards, school district standards, state standards, and national standards.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of standards comprises national marketing standards.

20 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the alignment method aligns the content by integrating new content into an existing organizational hierarchy within the alignment system by

determining where the new content belongs within the existing organizational hierarchy and by locating at least one existing record to which the new content is related.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the alignment system comprises a relational database management system.

5 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of integrating new content is achieved using at least one of a find-similar tool, a document routing tool, and a term analysis tool.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the alignment is performed based on a set of rules, the set of rules comprising at least one of creating alignments to all records that receive at least a minimal score when considered by a find-similar tool, taking a predetermined number of
10 best matches regardless of score, considering records in a certain portion of an organization hierarchy, dynamically limiting the organizational hierarchy using a document routing tool, a logic application which limits at least one of a number of records to be considered and a minimal criteria for alignment.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of aligning the content further comprises
15 receiving feedback from the at least one user, wherein the feedback enables the at least one user to do at least one of accept, reject, and modify an alignment result.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of performing the alignment further comprises performing one of direct alignment and indirect alignment.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein indirect alignment is achieved by manipulating
20 data types, such that alignment is made directly between at least one source data set and at least one target data set without initial alignment between the at least one source data set and at least one central data set.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein at least one new central data set is achieved by integrating the at least one source data set and the at least one central data set.

16. A system for managing content comprising:

a relational database management system, which comprises a first plurality of data tables,

5 wherein the first plurality of data tables comprises at least part of the content;

at least one server in communication with the relational database management system, wherein the server controls access to the relational database management system and at least one of retrieval of and modification to the content contained in the first plurality of data tables; and

10 an interface that receives a request from at least one user to access the relational database management system, wherein the interface receives the request from the at least one user over a wide area network.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the content comprises at least one of instructional data, planning data, implementation data, assessment data, school district instructional data, school district planning data, and school district assessment data.

15 18. The system of claim 16, wherein each one of the first plurality of data tables is related to each other in a many-to-many database relationship.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein individual ones of the first plurality of data tables contain at least one record.

20 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the at least one record comprises a plurality of information, the information comprising at least one of a record name, an identification field, and at least one open-ended text field.

21. The system of claim 16, wherein the first plurality of data tables further comprises a second plurality of data tables, which comprises organizational information for categorizing the content.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the first plurality of data tables and the second plurality of data tables are arranged in a hierarchical relationship such that the first plurality of data tables is subordinate to the second plurality of data tables.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein each one of the second plurality of data tables is related to the first plurality of data tables in a one-to-many relationship.

24. The system of claim 21, wherein the second plurality of data tables further comprises a third plurality of data tables, which comprises organizational information for categorizing the content, and wherein the first plurality of data tables, the second plurality of data tables, and the third plurality of data tables are arranged in a hierarchical relationship such that the third plurality of data tables is subordinate to the second plurality of data tables and the first plurality of data tables is subordinate to the third plurality of data tables.

25. The system of claim 29, wherein each one of the second plurality of data tables is related to the third plurality of data tables in a one-to-many relationship.

26. A computer-readable medium having a set of computer-executable instructions for managing content, the instructions comprising:

receiving a request from at least one user to align the content to at least one a first plurality of standards using a alignment system, wherein the alignment system stores the content; and

performing the alignment using the alignment system.

27. The computer-readable medium of claim 26 wherein the content comprises at least one of instructional data, planning data, implementation data, assessment data, school district instructional data, school district planning data, and school district assessment data.

28. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein performing the alignment of the content is a semi-automated process performed by the alignment system.

29. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the content is aligned by integrating new content into an existing organizational hierarchy within the web-based method by determining where the new content belongs within the existing organizational hierarchy and by locating at least one existing record to which the new content is related.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the alignment is performed using a relational database management system.

31. The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein integrating new content is achieved using at least one of a find-similar tool, a document routing tool, and a term analysis tool.

32. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the alignment is performed based on a set of rules, the set of rules comprising at least one of (a) creating alignments to all records that receive at least a minimal score when considered by a find-similar tool, (b) taking a predetermined number of best matches regardless of score, considering records in a certain portion of an organization hierarchy, (c) dynamically limiting the organizational hierarchy using a document routing tool, and (d) limiting at least one of a number of records to be considered and a minimal criteria for alignment.

33. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the instruction for aligning the content further comprises receiving feedback from the at least one user, wherein the feedback enables the at least one user to do at least one of accept, reject, and modify an alignment result.

34. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the performing the
5 alignment further comprises performing one of direct alignment and indirect alignment.

35. The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein indirect alignment is achieved by manipulating data types, such that alignment is made directly between at least one source data set and at least one target data set without initial alignment between the at least one source data set and at least one central data set.

10 36. The computer-readable medium of claim 30, wherein at least one new central data set is achieved by integrating the at least one source data set and the at least one central data set.

37. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the alignment system stores all of the content to be aligned.

38. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the alignment system stores
15 a portion of the content to be aligned and additionally stores at least one uniform resource identifier link, which enables access to additional portions of the content to be aligned, the additional portions of the content being stored on at least one of at least one separate computer and at least one separate server.